

ARE YOU  
**BRAVE  
ENOUGH**

*to be forgiving?*

ARE YOU  
**WILLING**

*to take chances  
on yourself and on the  
people in your life?*

**Yom Kippur** reminds us that we have what it takes, and that if we take those chances, we will find greater fulfillment and peace than we often imagine is possible.



The Hebrew word for Inclusive

**The National Jewish Center  
for Learning and Leadership**

**Y**OM KIPPUR promises us that we will be fine—fully forgiven for anything we have done. According to Leviticus 16:30, *for on this day atonement will be made and we will be purified.*

The verse has no qualifications or limitations. It reassures us that there is no transgression so big that it cannot be redressed. The day will do its job, but will we do ours?

**According to Isaiah,** God forgives us because God wants to forgive and therefore all will be forgiven. Are we ready to say the same regarding those who have transgressed against us? Are we willing to be as brave as God when it comes to forgiveness?

Sacred bravery is about forgiving others and doing so because we want to, because it helps us be who we most need to be. And then it invites us to go even one step further.

**S**ACRED BRAVERY is not only about granting forgiveness, but also about seeking it. It's about trusting that nothing is truly unforgivable as long as we are willing to work it out with the ones we have wronged. It may take time, but it can all be forgiven. That is the promise of Yom Kippur.

**This year, be brave.** However and wherever you spend this Yom Kippur, take the time to think about one person from whom you have not yet sought forgiveness, but need to. What first concrete step will you take to move in that direction?

**Consider also how you will grant forgiveness** to someone who needs it from you. What has kept you from doing so until now, and how can you move beyond that barrier?

***The day will do its job  
when we do ours.***



The Hebrew word for Inclusive

*For on this day atonement shall be made  
for you to cleanse you of all your sins;  
you shall be clean before Adonai.*

Leviticus 16:30



**F**OUNDED IN 1974, Clal-The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership is a think tank, leadership training institute, and resource center. Bringing Jewish insights to a wide American audience, Clal makes Jewish wisdom an accessible public resource. A leader in religious pluralism, Clal builds bridges across communities to encourage diversity and openness. Linking Jewish texts and tradition with innovative scholarship, Clal promotes Jewish participation in American civic and spiritual life, reinvigorating communities and enhancing leadership development.

**Brings**

Jewish wisdom to the American spiritual landscape and makes it a resource for all.

**Builds**

bridges across communities to encourage pluralism and openness.

**Promotes**

inclusive Jewish communities in which all voices are heard.

**Nurtures**

volunteer, professional and rabbinic leadership to build dynamic communities and helps people to re-imagine Jewish life.

**Enhances**

Jewish participation in American civic and spiritual life.

**Clal-**  
**The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership**

440 Park Avenue South, 4th floor • New York, NY 10016-8012212-779-3300 • fax 212-779-1009  
[www.clal.org](http://www.clal.org)

*Many Voices. Strong Communities. One People.*